

Today's Topics:

6 meter DX
MD Travelers' Info Stations
Modifiying radios for out of band operation (was Re: ARRL)
NASA Audio Retransmissions
Need Address for Free State ARC - K3IVO
Packet compression
pudgy wound helical antenna (60m vertical in my living room!)
RST's in contests

Date: Sun, 17 Dec 89 19:33:19 EST
From: Robert Carpenter <rc@cmr.ncsl.nist.gov>
Subject: 6 meter DX
Message-ID: <8912180033.AA08282@cmr.ncsl.nist.gov>

OM Chen reports hearing JAs from the SF Bay area on 6 meters. From what I gather from this distance, this has been a almost-daily occurrence for the last moth or so. We are near the peak of the sunspot cycle and F2 layer ionospheric propagation really gets to rather high frequencies when the sunspot numbers climb. Other almost-daily DX on 6 is New England to Europe. For the past couple of weeks we have had at least a few Gs nearly every day -- I've also worked Japan and Hawaii this December. Not quite with a "wet noodle" though 150 W out to a 6 el beam at 50 ft, SSB. The last week we have had transcontinental openings to southern CA most afternoons.

The key times for this DX require that the sun be sorta overhead at the path midpoint.

Listen to 28.885 MHz for the very active liaison frequency used by the 50 MHz crowd.

73, Bob W30TC

Date: Mon, 18 Dec 89 08:17:48 EST
From: Robert Carpenter <rc@cmr.ncsl.nist.gov>
Subject: MD Travelers' Info Stations
Message-ID: <8912181317.AA08946@cmr.ncsl.nist.gov>

Though my AM car radio is rather sick, I have noted a substantial number of TISs in Maryland. Our publicity-hound governor is great on such things, and on dynamic signboards ... especially in his "Reach the Beach" program in the summer. Unfortunately the information they contain seems nearly useless.

The TIS here on I-270 is updated WEEKLY and tells you to call the AAA for more info!! The TISs I heard on the Eastern Shore on a weekend also had stale info. There is a "dynamic signboard" on US-50 between DC and Annapolis each summer. All but one of the times I have passed it (nearly every Saturday), it has given a toll-free number to phone, and no other info.

I don't think the TISs give callletters.

Bob, W30TC

Date: 17 Dec 89 19:50:55 GMT
From: portal!cup.portal.com!roblingelbach@uunet.uu.net (R A Lingelbach)
Subject: Modifying radios for out of band operation (was Re: ARRL)
Message-ID: <25141@cup.portal.com>

>I have modified my radios to work out-of-band because they make
>super-fantastic pieces of test equipment, both as receivers and as
>signal sources. I don't jam with them. What I ****DO**** do with them is
>work hard at trying to advance the state of the art of radio communication.
>

>I really don't understand the little-old-grannies on this network who
>worry about what someone else might do with a modified radio. One gets
>the impression that these frightened little rabbits are so fearful that
>they hardly dare get on the air themselves! To justify their fears,
>they conjure up nightmare visions of "converted free-banders", "deaths
>from interference", and things that go bump in the night. Is it that
>they fear that others will show the same dearth of self-control that they
>lack?

I can't help but believe this discussion must eventually lead to optimism
vs. pessimism, positivism vs. negativism, or good cheer vs. anger....
I tend to think of hams as generally optimistic, in that they are in
favor of communication as a means for shrinking the Earth and overcoming
political boundaries. Count me as an optimist, in agreement with Brian
Kantor's opinion above.

--Rob

UUCP: sun!portal!cup.portal.com!roblingelbach
INTERNET: roblingelbach@cup.portal.com
AMPRNET: kb6cun@kb6cun.ampr.org [44.16.0.106]
PACKET RADIO: KB6CUN@K6IYK.#SOCAL.USA.NA
COMPUSERVE: 71101,176

Rob Lingelbach (213) 464-6266 (voice)
2641 Rinconia Dr 464-0827 (data)
Los Angeles, CA 90068

Date: 18 Dec 89 13:30:43 GMT
From: crash!guhsd000@nosc.mil (Paula Ferris)
Subject: NASA Audio Retransmissions
Message-ID: <924@crash.cts.com>

I'm an SWL (And stupid critisims may directed here to /dev/null cause I'll kill it anyway)...Anyway, I was wondering if anyone in the San Diego county, or anywhere else know if there will be any NASA Audio carried in SD County, and if so, I'd like times planned and frequencies to be used. I don't have much luck picking up anything other than NASA Brocasts from the Edwards Facility if I'm in that area durring a landing.

(For those of you bent of flaming an SWL, Stop and think, listening in on NASA would make you an SWL, *GASP* Since your not transmitting. For the rest of you who are decent and open minded individuals, thank you for your time for reading this message, and thank you in advance for any constructive replies.)

Date: 17 Dec 89 23:58:56 GMT
From: wa3wbu!ka3adu!compnect!daveh@uunet.uu.net (Dave Hultberg)
Subject: Need Address for Free State ARC - K3IVO
Message-ID: <344@compnect.UUCP>

I sort QSL cards for the "3" land buro. I currently have over 2 pounds of cards for the Free State Amateur Radio Club - K3IVO. The last address I have is for M. Cresap, 1921 Pometacom Dr., Hanover, MD 21076. Mail sent to that address is returned with a "moved, not forwardable" stamp. I would appreciate it if anyone could email a current address for the club. If any Free State ARC members are on the net, please contact the Buro for your cards:

CCARS
P.O. Box 448
New Kingston, PA 17072-0448.

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Dave Hultberg	Radio: KA3UZR	UUCP: uunet!wa3wbu!ka3adu!compnect!daveh
CIS: 72437,3215	US Snail: 1407 Concord Road,	Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-1955

Date: 18 Dec 89 14:25:44 GMT
From: rochester!rit!ultb!cep4478@rutgers.edu (C.E. Piggott)

Subject: Packet compression
Message-ID: <1785@ul.tb.isc.rit.edu>

(in reference to some comments re: getting sick of hearing what I can't do)

Maybe rec.ham-radio.legal isn't such a bad idea, then? (Not mine, though)

Chris N2JGW
cep4478@ul.tb.isc.rit.edu

Date: 17 Dec 89 19:41:36 GMT
From: fe2o3!michael@mimsy.umd.edu (Michael Katzmann)
Subject: pudgy wound helical antenna (60m vertical in my living room!)
Message-ID: <272@fe2o3.UUCP>

In article <1260012@hpmwtd.hp.com> timb@hpmwtd.hp.com (Tim Bagwell) writes:

>
>1) What you have is a vertical antenna with a tuning inductor built in. That
> is why you can obtain resonance with only 4' of height on 49m. A short
> vertical antenna will have a capacitive reactance that must be resonated
with
> inductance which you have incorporated into the antenna itself. The
radiation
> pattern, I would guess, is similar to that of a 4' monopole. The fact that
> the reactance is distributed over the length of the antenna helps to make
it
> more broadband.
>
>
>I would dearly love to see someone come up with a compact antenna that
performs
>as well as the big ones, but I think we're up against one of those doggone
>physical limits here.
>

Yes it is possible to resonate out the capacitive reactance of the short antenna
by a lumped or distributed inductance but what you end up with is usually a
very small radiation resistance! This means that the ratio of radiation
resistance to "ohmic" resistance drops and you lose your power to heat.
In ship board MF antennas the radiation resistance is often less than a ohm!
(Moral of the story: Use thick wire or tube for short antennas!)

email to
UUCP: uunet!mimsy!{arinc,fe2o3}!vk2bea!michael

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Amateur		VK2BEA	(Australia)	')))	/	//
Radio		G4NYV	(United Kingdom)	/ / / o _.	/ _ _ _.	//
Stations		NV3Z	(United States)	/ ' (_ _ (_ _ /	/ _ (_ / _ < / _ < / _	

Michael Katzmann
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Date: 18 Dec 89 13:41:00 GMT
From: silver!barkeyp@iuvax.cs.indiana.edu
Subject: RST's in contests
Message-ID: <12600090@silver>

> So why do they require signal reports in contest exchanges?

For the same reason that packets begin with synch tones -- to get the sender and the receiver in step. When you are trying to copy a weak exchange, the moment you hear the 5NN (on CW) you know that the next thing coming is the number you've got to copy (depending on the contest).

Pat Barkey WA8YVR

End of INFO-HAMS Digest V89 Issue #1036
